

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 4, 7-12 and 14-17 remain pending. The Examiner has indicated that claims "4 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Applicant has acted accordingly and all of the pending claims should be in condition for allowance. Claims 16 and 17 are parallel claims of claim 4 to recite an apparatus and machine-readable medium, respectively, with analogous limitations to the method claim of claim 4. The dependent claims add additional limitations.

Accordingly, the present claims are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-279-5098.

Respectfully submitted,

October 18, 2004
Date


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